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Symposium for Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries
New York, 14-16 June 1995 Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK

Provisional agenda and annotations to the provisional agenda

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Review of specific regional problems to improve transit transport systems
4. Proposals for future action
5. Other business
6. Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the Symposium.

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

The Symposium for Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries will be convened in New York from 14 to 16 June 1995 pursuant to paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 48/169. The terms of reference of the Symposium as set out in this resolution are to address specific regional problems in implementing the recommendations of the first Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions held in May 1993.

Item 1: Election of officers

1. The Symposium may wish to elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur

Item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda and organization of the work

2. The provisional agenda in section I above has been prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat on the basis of the mandate given to the Symposium by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/169, paragraph 12.

3. With regard to the organization of work, the following suggestions are made. There will be two meetings a day with interpretation facilities in English, French, Russian and Spanish. The normal working hours are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Immediately after the opening Plenary meeting in the morning of 14 June, it is suggested that the rest of the first day should be devoted to regional group discussions. On the second day, there will be an informal meeting to exchange views on the conclusions and recommendations for future action, which will be adopted at the last meeting of the Symposium, on Friday 16 June.

Item 3: Review of specific regional problems to improve transit transport systems

and

Item 4: Proposals for future action

4. For the consideration of these two items the Symposium will have before it the following basic documentation:

(a) Agreed conclusions and recommendations: priority areas and modalities for further action to improve transit systems in land-locked and transit developing countries (TD/B/LDC/AC.1/3)

The above conclusions and recommendations are the outcome of the first Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions held in May 1993 in New York. These conclusions and recommendations highlight the priority areas for transit co-operation which include the regulatory framework and transit facilities and services. They also elaborate the modalities for action at the national, subregional and international level to improve transit transport systems.

(b) Improvement of transit transport systems in land-locked and transit developing countries: issues for consideration (UNCTAD/LLDC/SYMP/3)

This note provides first a brief overview of the basic transit transport difficulties that are related to the lack of access to the sea. The note then focuses on sectoral problems related to various transit transport infrastructure facilities and services and highlights possible actions to overcome them, including the required interventions by the bilateral and multilateral institutions.

(c) Contributions by individual countries, and by international and intergovernmental organizations (UNCTAD/LLDC/SYMP/2 and Add.1)

The report summarizes the replies received from the land-locked and transit developing countries as well as some of the international and intergovernmental organizations involved in transit traffic and trade. These replies provide information on the policies and actions that are being taken or are envisaged to improve transit transport systems.

(d) Subregional and regional synopsis of the current transit transport situation and difficulties (UNCTAD/LLDC/SYMP/4)

This report, which draws on ongoing work in UNCTAD and in other relevant institutions, makes a brief assessment of the current transit transport situation in the different regions and subregions, as well as of the constraints that are encountered to improve it. It also highlights the actions under way to improve the transit transport systems.

(e) Results of specific studies related to transit and its alternatives (TD/B/40(1)/4)

The Secretary-General of UNCTAD was invited by the General Assembly, in resolution 48/169, to submit to the Symposium the results of specific studies on transit issues prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat, for submission to the Trade and Development Board at the first part of its fortieth session.

Background documents

5. In addition to the above agenda item documents, the following background documents will be made available to the Symposium:

- Transit systems for land-locked developing countries: current situation and proposals for future action (TD/B/LDC/AC.1/2)

- Legal and institutional framework for transit operations: current situation and proposals for improvement (UNCTAD/LDC/92 and Corr.1)

- Selected basic transport indicators in the Land-locked Developing Countries (UNCTAD/LDC/97*)

- Transit transport systems in East and Central Africa: Issues, actions and constraints (UNCTAD/LDC/90)

- Transit transport systems for Bolivia and Paraguay: Issues, actions and constraints (UNCTAD/LDC/91)

- Transit transport systems in Southern Africa: Issues, actions and constraints (UNCTAD/LDC/93)

- Transit transport systems in West and Central Africa: Issues, actions and constraints (UNCTAD/LDC/94)

- Transit transport systems for Ethiopia: Issues, actions and constraints (UNCTAD/LDC/96)

- Transit transport systems in Asia: Issues, actions and constraints (UNCTAD/LDC/98)

- Transit transport systems of the new independent and developing land-locked States in Central Asia and their developing transit neighbours: current situation and proposals for future action (A/49/277)

Other background documents

6. The contributions from regional economic commissions and other relevant institutions have been circulated in the form and language in which they were received.

Contribution from ESCAP	UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.27
Contribution from ECLAC	UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.28
Contribution from ECA	UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.30
Contribution from the World Bank	UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.31
Contribution from the African Development Bank	UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.33
Contribution from ECE	UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.34
Contribution from UNDP	UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.35

Item 5: Other business

Item 6: Adoption of conclusions and recommendations of the Symposium

7. The conclusions and recommendations of the Symposium will be made available to the next Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, to be convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/169. This meeting is scheduled to take place from 19 to 22 June 1995, in New York.